



## It's time for doctors to speak out on climate change

**Author(s):** McAll G  
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### Abstract:

There is no doubt now. Climate change is the biggest threat to human health this century. Initially it is the poor who are suffering most, but even wealthy nations are not escaping the consequences. The air we breathe, the water we drink, the weather we experience, and even the depth and acidity of the oceans are changing. Climate change is increasing the incidence of weather-related disasters and acting as an amplifier for many diseases. Action to reduce anthropogenic green house gases (GHG) is urgent, especially because the full effects of the present levels have yet to work their way fully through the global system. Even if we reduce GHG levels now we will still experience considerable global temperature rises, but if we fail to act then we face global climatic catastrophe. Carbon dioxide is the most important green house gas and latest figures from the Mauna Loa observatory in Hawaii confirm that the global CO<sub>2</sub> level continues its inexorable rise.

**Source:** [http://www.mjms.usm.my/default.asp?tagEuro\\_Surveillance\\_\(Bulletin\\_Europeen\\_Sur\\_Les\\_Maladies\\_Transmissibles;\\_European\\_Communicable\\_Disease\\_Bulletin\)14&kod\\_volumeEuro\\_Surveillance\\_\(Bulletin\\_Europeen\\_Sur\\_Les\\_Maladies\\_Transmissibles;\\_European\\_Communicable\\_Disease\\_Bulletin\)30](http://www.mjms.usm.my/default.asp?tagEuro_Surveillance_(Bulletin_Europeen_Sur_Les_Maladies_Transmissibles;_European_Communicable_Disease_Bulletin)14&kod_volumeEuro_Surveillance_(Bulletin_Europeen_Sur_Les_Maladies_Transmissibles;_European_Communicable_Disease_Bulletin)30)

### Resource Description

#### Exposure :

weather or climate related pathway by which climate change affects health

Air Pollution, Ecosystem Changes, Extreme Weather Event, Food/Water Security, Sea Level Rise, Temperature

**Air Pollution:** Interaction with Temperature, Ozone, Particulate Matter

**Extreme Weather Event:** Flooding, Hurricanes/Cyclones, Landslides

**Food/Water Security:** Food Access/Distribution, Nutritional Quality

**Temperature:** Extreme Cold, Extreme Heat, Fluctuations

#### Geographic Feature:

resource focuses on specific type of geography

None or Unspecified

#### Geographic Location:

# Climate Change and Human Health Literature Portal

resource focuses on specific location

Global or Unspecified

## **Health Impact:**

specification of health effect or disease related to climate change exposure

Cardiovascular Effect, Infectious Disease, Respiratory Effect

**Infectious Disease:** General Infectious Disease, Vectorborne Disease

**Vectorborne Disease:** General Vectorborne, Mosquito-borne Disease

**Mosquito-borne Disease:** Chikungunya, Dengue, Malaria

## **Medical Community Engagement:**

resource focus on how the medical community discusses or acts to address health impacts of climate change

A focus of content

## **Mitigation/Adaptation:**

mitigation or adaptation strategy is a focus of resource

Mitigation

## **Resource Type:**

format or standard characteristic of resource

Policy/Opinion

## **Timescale:**

time period studied

Time Scale Unspecified